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Dated: September 29, 2004 Signature: Kathryn L. Nash

(Kathryn L. Nash)

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Docket No.: 65937-0037
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Joseph L. Mark et al.

Application No.: 10/649,068

Filed: August 27, 2003

For: INTRODUCTION SYSTEM FOR
MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGICAL
INSTRUMENTS



Confirmation No.: 4645

Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the attorney named below be advised of the status of the above-identified application. Please advise us of when we might expect to receive an Office Action from the Patent and Trademark Office.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 65937-0037 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 29, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Kristin L. Murphy

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